

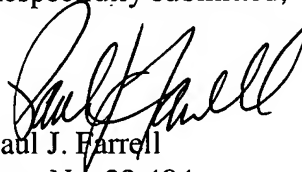
## REMARKS

Prior to examination, please cancel Claims 9-13 without prejudice.

All of the remaining claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-8 and 14-16, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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